

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Arrival of Soviet Troops at the Schweinrich Training Area

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 28 April 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. Between 9 and 11 April 1953, small truck columns, carrying troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and equipment, were continuously observed en route on the Pritzwalk-Schweinrich road. Detraining started in Dranse and Wittstock on 12 April, with about six troop trains daily unloaded at each of the two stations. The unloaded units left toward Schweinrich. Troops and materiel unloaded included:
 - 12 April. A tank unit at 6 p.m.; and about 20 trucks, 6 x 120-mm mortars and 9 x 80-mm mortars at 10:30 p.m. in Wittstock. Sixteen T-34 tanks and several trucks at 11:30 p.m. in Dranse.
 - 13 April. At least 20 trucks, 6 x 160-mm mortars and 9 x 80-mm mortars, at 8:30 p.m. in Wittstock.
 - 14 April. An undetermined number of 122-mm field howitzers, and 9 BA-64 armored scout cars in Wittstock.
 - 16 April. Nineteen tank trucks, 19 trucks and 1 sedan at 4 p.m. in Wittstock. Four SU-100 guns, 6 armored personnel carriers, 9 BA-64 armored scout cars, 5 sidecar motorcycles, and 9 trucks, at 8 a.m. in Dranse.
 - 17 April. Eighteen T-43 tanks, T-34 tank and 9 trucks occupied by troops, at 3 a.m. in Dranse.
 - 18 April. Fourteen SU-100 guns 1 BA-64 armored scout car, 2 x 37-mm AA guns; 9 trucks, and 6 boxcarloads of troops, at 6 p.m. in Dranse. Thirty boxcarloads of flour at 6:20 p.m. in Dranse; the flour was trucked toward Griebsee. A shipment similar to that which arrived at 6 p.m., at 9 p.m. in Dranse. All shipments mentioned were escorted by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. At 3 a.m. on 18 April, 20 tanks passed through Schweinrich. 1

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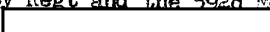
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1.  Comment. 
-  loadings took place in Perleberg on 12 and 13 April. From 12 to 18 April, a total of 11 shipments, most probably of the 18th Mecz Div, which included a total of about 87 tanks of various types, 30 mortars of all calibers and about 120 trucks 
- units of the 1054th How Arty Regt and the 592d Mort Regt (US) of the division can be identified.  probably included tanks of the 33d Tank Regt of the division.

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